

# Turning Points

online

November 2011

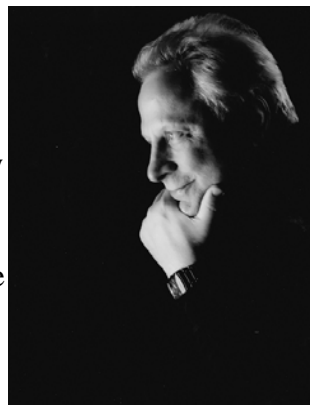
Issue: 18

## The Center in 2011 - Realization of a Dream

FROM THE CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write to you from our new space at 141 N. 3rd Street in Old City Philadelphia. In the few short months since our last Turning Points newsletter, The Center has undergone momentous changes -- a new name, new location and new website are just the beginning: formerly The Wood Turning Center, we are now truly The Center for Art in Wood.



After quietly opening our doors on First Friday November 4 and hosting an Opening Celebration Weekend on November

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**HOLIDAY SALE**

**Dec 1 - 24, 2011**

**10 - 30% Off!**

**Find Unique Gifts in the  
Museum Store**

11-13, we welcomed 1,245 visitors - in just 2 short weeks! If you think our new space is not inducement enough to visit, our 25th Anniversary exhibition, *Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey*, is now on display and the beautiful 25th anniversary limited-edition Portfolio publication of the same name is available.

Come see for yourself! The building is extraordinary and is receiving high praise from everyone who visits. We are open 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesday - Saturday. Information at 215-923-8000 or [The Center for Art in Wood](#).

It goes without saying that none of this would have been possible without your support and belief in The Center for Art in Wood. I cannot thank you enough for making my dreams, and the dreams of so many artists, come true.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and Staff, as well as myself and the community of wood artists, I say "Welcome!" We look forward to seeing you often at this beautiful, vibrant new Center for Art in Wood.

Best wishes to you and yours for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Albert LeCoff  
Co-Founder & Executive Director

## Opening Celebration

On Friday, November 11, The Center for Art in Wood officially threw open its doors with an Opening Celebration Party attended by more than 130 guests - artists, donors, members and friends -- from near and far.



**Friedemann Buehler  
Bowls  
price range from  
\$900 - \$2700**



**Traditional Toys  
from Germany  
\$8 - \$38**



**Seth Rolland  
Vases**

The Celebration inaugurated the 25th anniversary exhibition *Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey* and its accompanying Portfolio publication. A short program featured remarks by co-founder and executive director Albert LeCoff, co-founder Alan LeCoff, and Richard Goldberg, president of the Board of Trustees.

To mark the occasion, the City of Philadelphia honored Albert LeCoff and The Center for Art in Wood for their contributions to the arts community with an official tribute proclamation. An exciting moment!

The evening was made especially festive by delicious fare provided by JPM Catering & Events and music by violinist Madeline Gralish. Events Specialist Nancy Vonada, serving as a volunteer through the Arts & Business Council of Philadelphia, was a great help in assuring that everything ran smoothly.

Besides raising spirits, the evening raised over \$15,000 through ticket sales, donations, a raffle and store sales to support The Center's educational programming.

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who attended, and for those who could not join us, please enjoy these photos from the evening.

\$115



**Bamboo Cork  
Bowls & Trays**  
\$12 - \$20



**Balancing German Clowns**  
\$8 - \$38



**Core Bamboo Bowls**  
\$28 - \$45



Opening Celebration guests enjoying themselves



Co-Founder & Executive Director Albert LeCoff

CURRENT AND COMING:

***Turning to Art in Wood:  
A Creative Journey***

Nov 11 2011 -  
Apr 21, 2012

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**Museum Store  
Holiday Sale**

Dec 1 - 24, 2011  
Discounts of  
10% to 30%

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***Hooked on Wood: Fish  
Decoys and Life Aquatic***

May 18 -  
July 21, 2012

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Get your daily Center fix  
by becoming our friend on  
Facebook  
[Facebook](#)

**The Perfect Holiday Gift**



Board of Trustees President, Richard Goldberg, presenting Albert LeCoff with a Tribute from the City of Philadelphia

To view more photos from our Celebration please visit our Facebook page at [Facebook](#)

## Completing Our Wish List -- A New Challenge

Over the past few months, with the support of members and friends, The Center for Art in Wood has made amazing strides. Visitors are enthusiastic -- praising the beauty and value that The Center brings to Old City. While we've achieved a great deal in a short period of time, a few items still remain on our checklist.

To assist The Center in raising funds, a very generous donor has recently come forward with a wonderful challenge grant:

**Raise \$25,000 by December 15, 2011  
and the donor will match this  
with an additional \$50,000**



If you're searching for the perfect holiday gift, you've found it.

In conjunction with our newest exhibition, *Turning to Art in Wood*, The Center has published a 284-page full-color limited-edition Portfolio publication, numbered and signed by the authors.

This beautiful publication includes illustrated, insightful essays by Center co-founder Albert LeCoff, Elisabeth Agro, Glenn Adamson, Michelle Holzappel, Robin Rice, exhibition curator Gerard Brown, and board chairman Richard R. Goldberg.

These tell the fascinating story of "the creative journey" of The Wood Turning Center in Philadelphia and its historic role in fostering worldwide recognition of

Now we are asking you -- our friends, members and donors -- to consider making a donation towards the challenge grant by December 15.

Your generosity will help The Center to address its very specific needs, and also provide you with a timely tax deduction for 2011.

For those who contribute \$250 or more by December 15, The Center will give each person a one-year individual membership to The Center (value \$50.00) or a renewal on a current membership.

To make a donation, please click on the following link [I Want To Support the Center](#).

## Take A Day Off! Come See Our Newest Exhibition

### *Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey*

More than 100 objects comprise The Center for Art in Wood's 25th anniversary exhibition, purposefully selected from the Center's collection of more than 1000 art works, dating from the 1970's and 1980's to today. All have been acquired or are promised gifts.

From extraordinary bowls, wall art and furniture to abstract sculptures and newly imagined forms, objects are grouped in "conversations" that ask viewers to consider them from new perspectives.

Exhibition curator Gerard Brown, Foundation Chair and Assistant Professor of Art at Temple University's Tyler School

the finest contemporary art in wood. Exhibition photographic cards showcase the more than 100 objects in the 25th anniversary exhibition and an 80-page book displays thumbnail images of all the objects represented in the Center's museum collection, from its earliest beginnings until today.

Turning to Art in Wood is a truly organic publication that will continue to grow over the years along with The Center's collection. Updates will be sent each year to subscribers who maintain their annual memberships.

**Purchase price: \$125.**  
Shipping and applicable taxes are additional.

To purchase your copy, contact Lori Reece at 215-923-8000.

### **Opportunities for Artists**

Houston Center for

of Art, "discovered" the collection while a Resident Scholar at The Center for Art in Wood. "I would occasionally ask myself, 'what am I looking at?' In fact, I learned I was not interested in those objects as souvenirs or relics or for their status...I am interested in how this collection might propel a conversation forward by creating new conversations between artists and objects."

The result is a challenging exhibition of exceptional works - organized into "chapters" that Brown calls Conversations, What is it? (e.g., What is a bowl?), Materiality, Color and Function, Tool Time, and Sculpture. While there are "star" artists represented - including David Ellsworth, Mark Lindquist, Mark Sfirri, Merryll Saylan, Jack Larimore, Gord Peteran, Michelle Holzapfel, Jim Partridge, Garry Knox Bennett and Wendy Murayama - many pieces are by less well-known artists who are influencing the discussion. In recent years, more international artists and women working in wood have come forward.

"A collection has a use," says Brown, "and its function is to push a field forward."

## Contemporary Craft - Artist Residency Program

Applications must arrive  
by March 15, 2012.

Media Accepted: Wood,  
Glass, Metal, Fiber, Clay,  
Mixed Media

Access to wide variety of  
professional opportunities  
and resources 3, 6, 9 or  
12-month residencies  
onthly stipend Quarterly  
living/materials bonus  
Free studio space

Interested artists should  
send a completed  
application form and  
supporting materials to:

Artist-in-Residence  
Program

Houston Center for  
Contemporary Craft  
4848 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77002

For more information, call  
713-529-4848 x112, or to  
download an application  
visit

[Artist-in-Residence](#)

[www.crafthouston.org](http://www.crafthouston.org).  
Applications are under the  
Artist-in-Residence tab.





**Michelle Holzapfel**  
*Self Portrait, 1987*

Promised Gift of Bruce & Marina Kaiser

On display through April 21, 2012

## Many Thanks To All Who Contributed To The Move And New Space Renovations

2011 Contributors  
as of November 25, 2011

City of Philadelphia (Donor)  
Philadelphia Union of Carpenters & Joiners (Donor)  
Windgate Charitable Foundation (Donor)  
Ballard Spahr LLP (Donor)  
Qb3 Designs, Philadelphia (Donor)  
Joel & Vibeke Assouline (Donor)

### **Thinking of Giving? Consider the Legacy Program**

A major component of the Center's Strategic Plan is the development of the Legacy Program.

This Program is designed will allow our friends, members, donors and constituents to give a gift that will survive through the years.

The Legacy Program will honor the wishes of the donor and, in turn, provide long-term sustainability to the organization.

For more information, please contact Michael Lane at:

[Legacy Program](#)

### **Membership Support Is The Heart Of The Center**

It enables us to operate day-to-day, develop exhibitions, produce publications, and



NORTHSTAR Advisors, LLC (Donor)  
Gerry Lenfest (Gallery)  
Fleur & Charles Bresler (Resource Library)  
Norty Rockler Woodworking (Community Collections Study  
Gallery Room)  
The Bresler Family Foundation  
(Executive Director's Office)  
Len Scherock (Museum Store)  
Earl Powell (Artist Research Files)  
Deena & Jerry Kaplan (Gallery Bench)  
Carol Bresler & Carolyn Billingham  
(Donor to Fleur & Charles Bresler Resource Library)  
Edward Bresler  
(Donor to Fleur & Charles Bresler Resource Library)  
Leonard & Norma Klorfine Foundation (Donor)  
Bucks Woodturners (PA) (Movers & Shakers)  
Capital Area Woodturners (MD) (Movers & Shakers)  
Cape Atlantic Woodturners (NJ) (Movers & Shakers)  
DeVal Turners (NJ) (Movers & Shakers)  
First State Woodturners (Movers & Shakers)  
Alan LeCoff (Donor)  
Albert & Tina LeCoff (Donor)  
Richard & Rita Goldberg (Donor)  
Lee Bender & Carol Schilling (Donor)  
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Charles & Marlene Hummel (Donor)  
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Alan Keiser (Donor)  
Walter Palmer, Jr. (Donor)  
Jeff & Suzanne Kahn (Donor)

offer educational outreach  
programming.

**Give a gift of  
membership**  
to yourself or others

Join or renew today.

To purchase a click on the  
link below:

[Membership](#)

### **Visit the Center**

The Center is open  
Tuesday - Saturday  
10am to 5pm

and by appointment

Bil Stickler (Donor)  
Joan Doyle (Donor)

## Take A Look -- The New Website Makes Its Debut [www.centerforartinwood.org](http://www.centerforartinwood.org)

After months of hard work, we are excited to announce the debut of The Center's new website: [Center for Art in Wood Website](http://www.centerforartinwood.org).

Many talented people developed this project, including Catalyst Creative, designer Dan Saal and Center staff. Funding and support was provided by the William Penn Foundation, Windgate Charitable Foundation, Ron Wornick and the Arts & Business Council of Philadelphia.

The website provides a dynamic interface that is easy to use and very accessible. In addition to presenting current information about The Center and its activities, the site also provides a database that enables users to search The Center's collections for study and enjoyment.

We want to know how this works for you....so please send your comments to Ron Humbertson at [Ron Humbertson](mailto:Ron.Humbertson@centerforartinwood.org).



THE  
CENTER  
FOR ART  
IN WOOD

**Presenting the finest contemporary works of art in wood**

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